

**WB Interview:**

- WB
- Male
- Mid 40s
- From Omhajer
- Amsterdam
- 6 years in the NL
- Came through Sudan, Libya, Italy route
- Primary school - 4th grade

Integrating into Dutch society has been challenging. Even though, I am grateful for the freedom and opportunities this country has offered me, the digital aspect of life here has been quite challenging to get used to. I don't possess internet and technology skills necessary in this system, which has made it difficult for me to do many things independently. I only have a smartphone, and even simple tasks like ordering food or applying for things online become difficult for me.

Mihretab brother it is not your belly that needs to be filled it is your soul. Once the old dictator is gone, I want to go back home and live even a materially poor life.

He is politically active and takes part in demonstrations and protests

Challenges of digital skills he faced:

Privacy issue - things that I want to do alone I am forced to do with others. People underestimate you. I don't actually like the digital environment. But you are forced to do things by yourself. For example health.

There are training options, but your background may hinder you - lack of previous education.

War and military background make you forget things easily, but don't let you learn quickly. The trauma of war is everlasting, I can't focus and learn.

"For over a decade, I served as a soldier stationed at the Ethio-Eritrea border, sacrificing my youth, education, and everything. I never had control over my own life, constantly yearning for freedom... Eventually, I made the decision to flee and came here, which turned out to be one of the best choices I've ever made. However, I found a stark contrast between my previous reality and my present digital life. It feels as though I had been in a prolonged sleep, only to wake up in a completely different world... The reliance on digital systems leaves me feeling powerless as if I can no longer accomplish anything independently. I had to ask for help to apply something on the internet or use an application. And honestly, I don't like that. The freedom I longed for appears to be further out of reach."

The overall system of this country is digital and that made it very difficult for me.

Age can also be a factor in acquiring digital skills

Telephone appointment - you don't know the language

Digital is not mine - I decided to do things in person - it gives me satisfaction

I am against digital initiatives - the more digital it gets the more we feel alienated

I attended a demonstration - the objective was old system should be preserved, and should not be destroyed by the digital system. the old system is the foundation and should not be destroyed. It was organized by Dutch people, and regardless of your origin you could participate. It was in 2023 in The Hague. 90 - 100 people attended. I believe that the old system provides a foundation and shouldn't be destroyed by an excessive reliance on digital tools. However, it's essential to remember that the digital divide affects people like me, who struggle to keep up with the fast-paced digital world.

I had tested positive for Covid19, and I was alone at home with no one to look for. For people like me with no digital skills, you may also die. Because of your lack of skills, I wanted to order food but can't do it with the internet due to lack of skills. I had money in my account and couldn't do it. So I

called one of my Dutch friends and he ordered food and sent it to my address. I felt incapable.

Eritrea - no internet, only in government institutions, no electricity, coming from dark world to advanced information society you can think of it yourself.

Refugees should - identifying your problems, state clearly your problems and issues -

Government should - make accommodations and support for people based on their level of education. Everyone has his/her own timing, to learn and adopt to things.

Habai quslu habai fewsu yibehal -

You want to live in this country, the facility edu, health are all available here. I want to complete everything in privacy, there is an interpreter in between. I feel like I don't have any control in my life, negeratka nsebat negirka endhr zeytesaki

If you don't understand digital skills you will lose everything,  
But life is a challenge and you have to face it and fight as such.

There are people who take advantage of your lack of skills - people make fun of your lack of digital skills -

You don't want to ask someone for help every day - so you decided to pay more instead of asking favors. For example I will go to Basel next week. I know the tickets can be bought on the internet, but I can't do it and I am tired of asking people for help. So, I will have to go to Sloterdijk station and have to buy in person. I would prefer to spend the cost and time instead of asking people every now and then. That is the solution I choose - email

appointments and pharmacy paper - but instead I prefer to go and walk by myself

I had issues with my ING banking app. There was a guy who was here for 37 years, I asked for his help, but I don't know what he did but my account got blocked.

Ayfelti mbal hara mwtsae eyu.

Sebat sponsor gerom yemtsuka emo hasabom natom ktzareb yigebruka. hasab nay beteseb hizom ykhedu, zeynatka tekoynu aytzkron ekha. You will have your own case, bseb nzwer. Nebskha zeymwnan.